

HIDEYUKI KIKUCHI'S

# Vampire Hunter D

5

ADAPTED AND ILLUSTRATED BY SAIKO TAKAKI



DIGITAL MANGA PUBLISHING



HIDEYUKI KIKUCHI'S

# Vampire Hunter D

## Volume 5

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Publisher

Hiyaru Sasahara

*Sport Magazine Japan Publishers / Foreign Licensing*

*Sales Company: Sales/Distribution*

*Print & Copy Inc./Milestones: DMP*

*Print & Copy: Tokyo/Vintage Books*

*Hiyaru Sasahara - Publisher*

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English Edition Published by  
DIGITAL MANGA PUBLISHING  
A Division of DIGITAL MANGA, Inc.  
1487 W 128th Street, Suite 300  
Gardena, CA 90248

[www.dmpbooks.com](http://www.dmpbooks.com)  
[www.vampire-d.com](http://www.vampire-d.com)

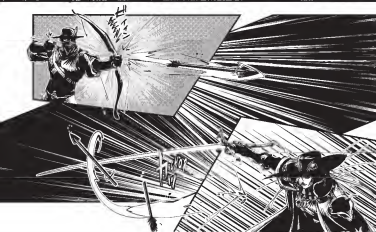
First Edition: November 2010  
ISBN-10: 1-56970-790-3  
ISBN-13: 978-1-56970-790-6

1 3 5 2 9 10 8 6 4 2

Printed in Canada









IS  
THAT  
MUSIC?





LOOKS  
LIKE IT'S  
A BALL  
IN FULL  
SWING.



ARE  
THOSE  
NOBILITY  
DANCING?  
OR  
HUMANS?







AND  
YOU  
ARE...?

IT SEEMS  
I WAS  
INVITED  
HERE.



DID YOU  
SUMMON  
ME? WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?

OR  
MAYBE  
THIS  
IS—



HE—  
WHO?

WHERE  
IS HE?



WELL?





BUT THAT  
WAS TOO  
VIVID TO  
BE JUST A  
DREAM.

EVEN  
I FELT  
THAT  
PAIN.



THERE'S  
NO  
WOUND





THEY  
MUST WANT  
SOMETHING  
FROM  
YOU.

THAT  
MANSSION  
WAS  
DEFINITELY  
BECKONING  
TO YOU.



YOU  
THINK  
SO?

-I'D SAY  
WE'LL  
BE SEEING  
THEM AGAIN  
SOON  
ENOUGH.



I SAW  
HIM...



THAT  
YOU  
DID.







YOU'RE  
A VAMPIRE  
HUNTER  
AREN'T  
YOU?



UM,  
EXCUSE  
ME.



とどろ  
たどろ  
たどろ  
たどろ



...



DO YOU  
KNOW  
WHO  
I AM?



SYBILLE  
IS IN  
ROOM 7.

IN THAT  
CASE, PLEASE  
GO TO THE  
HOSPITAL ON  
THE EDGE OF  
TOWN.





I'M THE  
DIRECTOR—  
DOCTOR  
ALLEN.

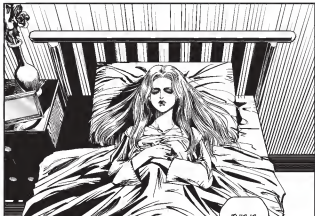
YOU  
WISH  
TO SEE  
ME?

I'D  
LIKE TO  
SEE THE  
DIREC-  
TOR.



YOU CAN  
CALL  
ME D.





THIS IS  
SYBILLE  
SCHMITZ.



SHE'S  
18.



IT'S  
BEEN  
THREE,  
NOW.



HOW  
MANY  
DECADES  
HAS SHE  
BEEN  
LIKE  
THIS?

OH,  
YOU CAN  
TELL,  
EH?



SYBILLE'S  
BEEN  
ASLEEP  
EVER SINCE  
THEN.

SO MUCH  
TIME HAS PASSED,  
AND THE  
ATTACKER HAS  
NEVER COME  
BACK...



THERE, ON  
HER NECK,  
WERE  
THOSE TWO  
LOATHSOME  
MARKS...



SHE WAS  
FOUND  
THIRTY  
YEARS AGO,  
COLLAPSED  
IN THE  
FOREST NOT  
FAR FROM  
HERE.



HOW  
DID YOU  
KNOW I  
WOULD  
COME  
HERE?



I HAVEN'T  
ASKED  
AROUND—  
BUT I'D BET  
EVERYBODY  
IN THE  
VILLAGE HAD  
ONE TOO.

I HAD A  
DREAM  
ABOUT  
YOU LAST  
NIGHT.



OUR VILLAGE  
USED TO BE  
THE ONLY ONE  
THAT GOT  
ALONG WITH  
THE NOBILITY...  
SO WHY DID  
THIS HAPPEN?



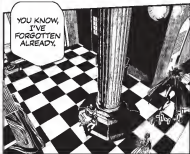
THE ONLY  
THING I  
KNEW FOR  
SURE WAS  
THAT YOU'D  
COME SEE  
SYBILLE.



WHAT  
KIND OF  
DREAM  
WAS IT?



YOU KNOW,  
I'VE  
FORGOTTEN  
ALREADY.























CAN ANYONE  
SAY WHY  
THEY DREAM  
ABOUT THE  
THINGS  
THEY DO?



YOU WERE  
ON YOUR  
WAY TO  
SYBILLE.

YOU WERE  
SURROUNDED BY  
A BLUE LIGHT  
AND YOU JUST  
KEPT RIDING  
ON AND ON.



BUT...  
I DO  
UNDER-  
STAND.



THAT'S  
MY  
ANSWER.



SO,  
I WAS  
SUM-  
MONED.

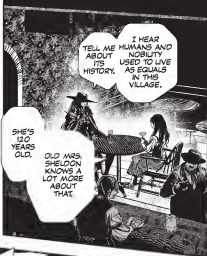
...YET  
THE RIDDLE  
REMAINS  
UNSOLVED.



WHERE  
IS  
SHE?

BEYOND  
THE OR-  
CHARDS.

THE  
WESTERN  
CUT-  
SHORTS  
OF TOWN—



SHE'S  
120  
YEARS  
OLD.

OLD MRS.  
SHELDON  
KNOWS A  
LOT MORE  
ABOUT  
THAT.



THAT'S  
WHAT  
WE'D  
LIKE TO  
KNOW  
TOO!

DOES  
THAT HAVE  
SOME-  
THING TO  
DO WITH  
THIS?



MR.  
CLEMENTS  
...?

WHAM!

TOK





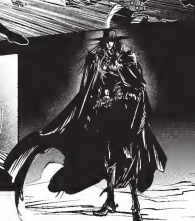
GO ON,  
GET  
HIM!



**Y'WOM**



...INTER-  
ESTIN!







THAT'S  
FAR  
ENOUGH!



SHERIFF!



TAKE YOUR  
MEN AND  
GET OUT  
OF HERE,  
CLEMENTS.



YOU'D NEED  
OVER A  
HUNDRED  
CRONIES TO  
BEST HIM.

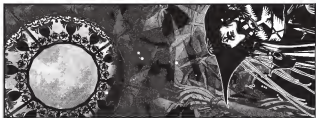


K-  
KRUTZ

I  
WASN'T  
REALLY











I  
KNOW.



SO YOU  
SUMMON ME,  
BUT YOU  
WON'T  
ANSWER OR  
LET ME  
LEAVE?



YOUR  
DREAM  
MAY HAVE  
NO END,  
BUT MINE  
DO—

I CAN'T  
REMAIN  
HERE  
FOREVER.



PLEASE—  
HELP ME.



I HAD TO  
GET YOU  
TO COME  
HERE.



...

WHAT  
CAN I  
DO FOR  
YOU?





I WANT  
YOU TO  
**DESTROY**  
HIM...



AND BE-  
SIDES--



I DON'T  
KNOW IF I'LL  
ENCOUNTER  
HIM, AND EVEN  
IF I KILL HIM  
HERE, I DON'T  
KNOW IF IT  
WILL DESTROY  
HIM OR  
NOT.

THIS  
IS A  
DREAM  
LAND.



WHAT  
...?





WHAT DID HE  
WANT  
WITH  
YOU?



...DO  
YOU...  
KNOW  
HIM?



PLEASE  
DON'T  
ASK ME  
SUCH A  
HORRIBLE  
THING.

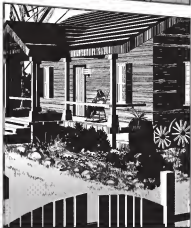


ANSWER  
ME.

WHAT  
WAS HE  
AFTER WHEN  
HE DRANK  
YOUR  
BLOOD?

STOP  
IT!









THERE'S  
TOO  
MUCH  
TO TELL.

...ABOUT THE  
TIME WHEN  
NOBILITY  
AND HUMANS  
COEXISTED  
IN THIS  
VILLAGE.

I'D  
LIKE TO  
KNOW  
...

ANY-  
THING  
YOU  
CAN...

...TELL  
ME,  
WILL  
HELP.

NOBODY  
KNOWS  
WHAT  
BECAME  
OF THEM.

THEY ALL  
WENT OFF  
SOMEWHERE  
FAR AWAY  
WHEN I  
WAS A  
TODDLER,  
THOUGH.

SO MUCH  
SO, THAT  
IT'S NEARLY  
THE SAME  
AS HAVING  
NOTHING  
TO SAY.

MEANWHILE,  
SHE MAKES  
OTHER  
PEOPLE  
DREAM  
ABOUT  
ME.



AND  
SHE STILL  
SLEEPS  
HER  
AGELESS  
SLEEP  
TO THIS  
DAY.

THAT  
WOULD  
BE WHEN  
THE GIRL  
WAS  
BITTEN,



THEY'VE  
ONLY  
COME  
BACK  
ONCE  
SINCE  
THEN.  
--THAT  
WAS  
THIRTY  
YEARS  
AGO.



YOU'RE  
REFERRING  
TO  
SYBILLE.



....I'M  
NOT SURE  
WHICH WAY  
WOULD'VE  
BEEN  
BEST...

...SHE WAS  
ACTUALLY  
SUPPOSED  
TO BE  
BANISHED  
THEN AND  
THERE.





SYBILLE'S  
GRAND-  
MOTHER.

THERE  
WAS AN  
EYE-  
WITNESS



WHAT  
KIND OF  
MAN WAS  
THE NOBLE  
WHO BIT  
HER?

--NOW  
LET'S SEE,  
HE WAS A  
HUGE MAN,  
DRESSED IN  
BLACK.

BUT SHE  
USED TO  
TELL PEOPLE  
EVERY DAY  
THAT SHE  
CAUGHT  
SIGHT OF  
HIM WHILE  
SEARCHING  
FOR SYBILLE.



SHE  
PASSED  
AWAY  
TWENTY  
YEARS  
AGO...

SO  
HANDSOME,  
IT DIDN'T  
SEEM TO BE  
OF THIS  
WORLD.

--HE  
RESEM-  
BLED  
YOU, IN  
FACT.

HIS  
FACE  
WAS...







...NOW  
WHY'D HE  
HAVE TO  
GO AND  
BITE  
SYBILLE?



WHO WAS  
CLOSEST  
TO THE  
GIRL?



AND  
WHAT  
DOES  
SHE  
DREAM  
ABOUT  
?

WHY'D  
HE  
FORCE  
HER TO  
DREAM?



WHERE IS SHE?



WHAT WERE YOUR THOUGHTS?









...MIND  
GETTING  
INTO  
TROUBLE  
IF IT WAS  
WITH HIM.

HE'S A  
DANGER-  
OUS MAN,  
BUT I  
WOULDN'T



I'M SURE  
THIS IS  
WHERE I  
PICKED  
THAT  
TEA...

...BUT  
WHEN DID  
IT START  
GROWING  
HERE?



I'M NOT  
SURE IF  
I WANT  
THAT TEA  
TO WORK  
ON HIM  
OR NOT...

LORDY ME,  
IT'S BEEN A  
LONG TIME  
SINCE I  
FELT LIKE A  
CONFUSED  
YOUNG  
THING.

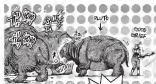




MEAT BEASTS.

THE FLAVOR OF THEIR MEAT IS TOP-NOTCH, PROVIDED THEY DON'T SUFFER A FATAL INJURY. THE FLESH CUT FROM THEM WILL FULLY GROW BACK WITHIN TWELVE HOURS.

THEY'RE CONVENIENT LIVESTOCK THAT NEITHER FEEL PAIN NOR STRUGGLE WHEN CUT, BUT THEY RARELY REPRODUCE, SO THEIR LIMITED POPULATION MAKES THEM PRIZED AND EXTENSIVE.



GET IN THERE PLUTO!

YOU'VE ALREADY EATEN A TON!





...SLEEPING IN THE HOSPITAL— ABOUT SYBILLE.

I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE GIRL...

...SLEEPING IN THE HOSPITAL— ABOUT SYBILLE.

I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU ABOUT THE GIRL...

BUT... RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO CHECK THE CHICKENERS' THERMO-STATS...

I CAN TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW.

BUT... RIGHT NOW I HAVE TO CHECK THE CHICKENERS' THERMO-STATS...

I CAN TELL YOU WHAT I KNOW.

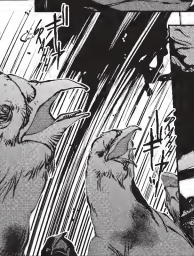
## CHICKENERS.

THESE GIANT BIRDS HAVE PHYSICAL CONSTITUTIONS SO SENSITIVE THEY'LL DIE IF THE TEMPERATURE CHANGES A SINGLE DEGREE FROM THEIR ACCUSTOMED SETTING. BUT THEY'RE A VALUABLE SOURCE OF FOOD AND INCOME ON THE FRONTIER.

GYAHNNNN

THEY HAVE BRUTAL DISPOSITIONS, AND RAISING THEM IS DIFFICULT. HUMAN BONES ARE THEIR FAVORITE FOOD.













GUESS  
WE MIGHT  
AS WELL  
CALL THEM  
"BLOODY  
FOAM  
EGGS."



WELL?



THEY'RE  
BUBBLES, SO  
EVENTUALLY  
THEY'LL  
POP.

YOU BETTER  
BLOCK  
ALL YOUR  
SENSES  
WHEN THEY  
DO.

I'VE NEVER  
SEEN THEM  
BEFORE  
EITHER.



WAIT,  
I MIGHT  
AS WELL  
TRY  
EATING  
ONE.



NOW—  
COME  
TO ME.

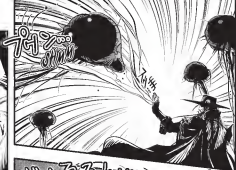
IT  
MIGHT  
STILL  
AFFECT  
YOU.

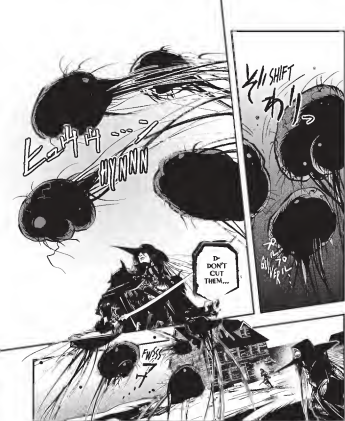
DON'T  
BE SO  
RELAXED  
ABOUT  
IT.



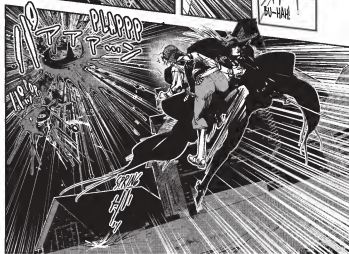
THAT  
WOULD  
BE  
GOOD.



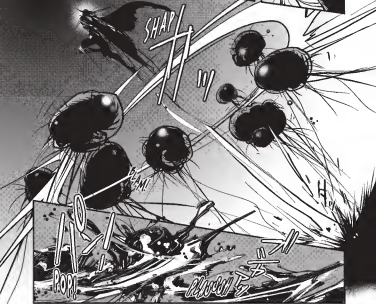
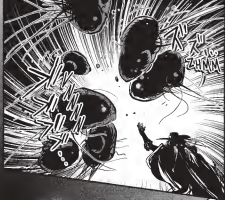




GET DOWN AND HOLD YOUR BREATH!













WHAT  
KIND OF  
GIRL WAS  
SYBILLE?



SHE WAS A  
ROMANTIC.



I BET  
SHE'S  
HAVING  
SOME  
REALLY  
NICE  
DREAMS.

WHAT  
ELSE  
COULD  
SHE EVER  
NEED?

AND  
SHE  
WAS  
KIND.







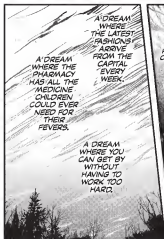
THE KIND  
THAT  
TRAVELLING  
WRITERS  
WRITE FOR  
YOUNG  
GIRLS.



OTHER-  
WISE,  
GOD  
MUST  
NOT  
EVEN  
EXIST.



WHAT  
KIND OF  
DREAMS  
DO YOU  
MEAN?



A DREAM  
WHERE THE  
PHARMACY  
HAS ALL THE  
MEDICINE  
CHILDREN  
COULD EVER  
NEED FOR  
THEIR  
FEVERS.

A DREAM  
WHERE  
THE LATEST  
FASHIONS  
ARRIVE  
FROM THE  
CAPITAL  
EVERY  
WEEK.

A DREAM  
WHERE YOU  
CAN GET BY  
WITHOUT  
HAVING TO  
WORK TOO  
HARD.



A DREAM  
WHERE  
THERE'S  
NOTHING  
TO FEAR,  
PEOPLE ARE  
CONSIDERATE  
TO ONE  
ANOTHER,  
AND THEY  
GO OUT OF  
THEIR WAY  
TO HELP  
EACH  
OTHER.

A DREAM  
WHERE THE  
LIBRARY HAS  
ALL THE  
BOOKS YOU'D  
EVER WANT  
TO READ...

...A DREAM  
WHERE  
PEOPLE IN  
LOVE WALK  
HAND IN  
HAND DOWN  
THE STREET.



A DREAM  
WHERE  
EVERYONE  
CAN GO  
DOWN TO THE  
POND ON A  
MOONLIT  
NIGHT TO  
CATCH W  
FIREFLIES.





BUT YOU HAD SYBILLE'S DREAM TOO, DIDN'T YOU?

WELL, HERE WE THOUGHT IT WAS JUST US DREAMING ABOUT YOU...

—DOES THAT REMIND YOU OF ANYTHING?



WHY WAS SYBILLE CHOSEN, THEN?

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?



AND, A DANCE.

AN ANCIENT MANSION AND A BLUE LIGHT... A WHITE EVENING DRESS AND BLACK FORMAL WEAR...



ALL WHILE BEING SURROUNDED BY BLUE LIGHT...

TO WEAR A WHITE DRESS AND DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY IN AN OLD MANSION HALL WITH A MAN IN A TALL COAT

THAT WAS ANOTHER ONE OF HER WISHES!



DO YOU THINK SYBILLE IS HAPPY?

.....

I DON'T KNOW.



THE SUN NEVER RISES ON A DREAM NIGHT, DOES IT?



SHE'S GETTING HER WISH.



I WANT  
YOU TO  
DESTROY  
HIM...

THEY  
MIGHT BE  
FANTASTIC  
DREAMS,  
BUT THAT  
DOESN'T  
NECESSARILY  
MEAN  
THEY'RE  
GOOD.



—EVEN IF  
I CAN'T  
HAVE  
FANTASTIC  
DREAMS  
LIKE  
SYBILLE'S...

I'M  
SATISFIED  
WITH MY  
LIFE  
THE WAY  
IT IS.  
PLEASE  
DON'T  
GET ME  
WRONG.

—SO  
MUCH,  
I WANTED  
TO KILL  
YOU.

IT  
MADE  
ME  
HATE  
YOU...



YOU  
SAID YOU  
DREAMT  
ABOUT  
ME?



YES.

WHAT  
WAS  
YOUR  
IMPRES-  
SION?





—AND  
SO I LET  
HIM  
BRING  
ME TO  
SEE YOU.



IT IS.



IS THAT  
WHAT  
HAP-  
PENED?





.....



WHAT  
WOULD  
YOU  
KNOW  
ABOUT  
IT?



I'LL SEE  
YOU TO  
THE EDGE  
OF OUR  
TERRITORY.



IF  
ONLY I  
COULD.

GO ON AND  
LEAVE THE  
VILLAGE  
BEFORE  
YOU CAUSE  
ANY MORE  
TROUBLE.



WHAT  
NON-  
SENSE  
IS  
THAT?



THIS ARRIVED  
FROM THE  
CAPITAL THIS  
MORNING.  
IT'S THE LATEST  
IN NEURAL  
SURGERY  
EQUIPMENT.



DIRECTOR  
ALLEN?

AH,  
SHERIFF.  
GOOD  
TIMING.



MAYBE  
*THIS* WILL  
ALLOW  
US TO  
AWAKEN  
SYBILLE.









ABOUT  
THE  
SHERIFF.  
WAS HE  
SYBILLE'S  
LOVER?



AND THE  
SHERIFF'LL  
JUST COME  
AFTER YOU,  
TOO.

YOU HAVEN'T  
SOLVED  
THE MYSTERY  
YET...  
DON'T YOU  
NEED TO  
INVESTIGATE  
SOME MORE?



THEY WERE  
APPARENTLY  
THE  
BEST-SUITED  
COUPLE  
IN THE  
VILLAGE.

I SUPPOSE  
THEY WOULD  
HAVE GOTTEN  
MARRIED  
IF SYBILLE  
HADN'T  
GOTTEN  
THIS WAY.



TELL  
ME  
THIS...



WERE ALL  
FRIENDS.

THEY SAY  
THE  
SHERIFF  
SYBILLE,  
AND  
AI-LING...



—THEN  
DO  
SOME-  
THING  
FOR  
SYBILLE.

YOU'RE A  
HUNTER,  
AREN'T  
YOU?



I BET  
IT HURTS  
HER  
TO EVEN  
SEE HER  
OWN  
FACE IN  
THE  
MIRROR.

AND  
WHAT'S  
MORE...  
SHE'S  
THERE  
WAITING  
EVERY  
DAY,  
LOOKING  
THE  
SAME AS  
EVER.



...HOW MUST  
IT FEEL FOR  
YOUR HUSBAND  
TO GO VISIT  
YOUR OLD  
FRIEND EVERY  
DAY?

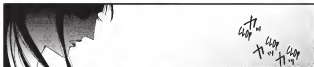


IT'S ALL...  
IT'S ALL THE  
FAULT OF  
THAT NOBLE  
WHO SUCKED  
SYBILLE'S  
GOOD.



YOU  
SHOULD  
ALSO BE  
ABLE TO  
SAVE  
THEIR  
VICTIMS.

IF YOU  
CAN  
DEFEAT  
NOBILITY  
...





I  
WONDER  
IF IT'LL  
WORK.



WHAT'S  
GOING  
TO  
HAPPEN  
TO HIM?

WHAT  
ABOUT  
SYBILLE  
...AND  
US?



I'VE  
GOT TO  
GO  
MAKE  
SURE.



NOTHING'S  
GOING TO  
HAPPEN.

I'M  
JUST  
GOING TO  
SEE HIM  
TO THE  
TOWN  
LINE.



DID  
HE SAY  
SOME-  
THING  
TO YOU?

....!



-NOT  
A  
THING.















I'M  
"JACK-  
OF-ALL-  
TRADES  
MAGGIE."

NOW  
HE'S A  
FINE-  
LOOKIN'  
MAN.

HI  
THERE.

THEY  
CALL ME  
D.

HUHN  
?!



DID YOU  
NOTICE  
ANYTHING  
UNUSUAL  
ON YOUR  
WAY HERE,  
MAGGIE?



SO  
THERE.

OH HECK,  
I HAVEN'T  
DONE  
NOTHIN'!



Y-  
YOU'RE  
HIM...?

IT'S  
AN  
HON-  
OR.

N-N-  
NICE  
TO  
MEET  
YOU





ARE YOU SURE YOU SHOULDN'T BE THERE NOW?

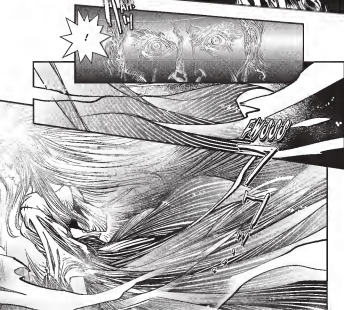
I RECOGNIZED THAT DEVICE THE DIRECTOR HAD!



AREN'T YOU GOING TO STOP BY?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?







SYBILLE

...



YOU  
REALLY  
DO SEEM  
OUT OF  
PLACE IN  
THERE.



IT'S  
AN ODD  
THING  
TO SAY...

BUT I  
GET THE  
FEELING  
I'VE JUST  
THROWN  
ROYALTY  
INTO MY  
JAIL.







EXPLAINING THIS TO HIM WASN'T EASY.

EVEN THE MAYOR CAME BY EARLIER.

WOMEN FROM ALL OVER TOWN ARE PEERING IN HERE.

YOU'RE PRETTY POPULAR.



LOOK OUT THE WINDOWS.



WHAT?



I'M GOING TO TAKE A NAP.



WHY DON'T YOU GO TO THE HOSPITAL INSTEAD OF KEEPING AN EYE ON ME?







WHERE'S  
SYBILLE?!

WHERE IS  
SHE?!

WHAT THE  
HELL'S  
GOING ON  
HERE?!



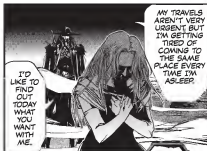














SO IT'S A  
DREAM  
WITHIN A  
DREAM, OR  
ELSE SOME  
OTHER  
DREAM HAS  
INVADED.

LOOKS  
LIKE THAT  
FOG  
EARLIER  
WASN'T  
REALLY  
FOG.

WELL.

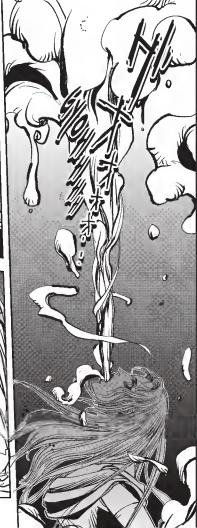
—WHAT  
WILL  
HUMANITY  
LEAVE  
BEHIND  
AT THIS  
RATE?

IT'S  
BEAUTI-  
FUL, SO  
IT MUST  
BE DE-  
STROYED.

IT'S  
REPU-  
L-SIVE,  
SO IT  
MUST  
BE DE-  
STROYED.

IT  
DOESN'T  
WANT  
TO BE  
DESTROYED,  
SO IT MUST  
BE DE-  
STROYED.

CAN'T A  
DREAM  
JUST BE  
A DREAM?



















WHY DON'T  
YOU TRY  
ASKING THE  
ONE WHO  
MADE ALL  
THIS IN  
THE FIRST  
PLACE?

WE'VE  
GOT  
NOBODY  
WHO'S  
DEAD TO  
ASK.

I  
DON'T  
KNOW.

YOU-  
KNOW-  
WHO.

HM?

IS THAT  
THE  
INTRUDER'S  
...?

CRASH!!!





—AND,  
WE'RE  
STILL IN A  
DREAM.

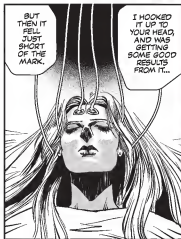


IT'S ODD,  
WAKING  
FROM ONE  
DREAM  
AND STILL  
BEING IN  
ANOTHER...

SO  
NOW  
WHAT?











...WHAT  
WAS  
THAT...?



I RAN  
INTO  
SYBILLE.



SAY  
WHAT  
?!



I CALLED  
FORTH...

...THE  
SYBILLE  
YOU  
SAW.



DOES  
THAT MEAN  
WE CAN  
USE THIS  
THING...

...TO  
WAKE  
HER  
UP?



...AND  
I USED  
THAT  
MACHINE  
TO DO  
IT.



TO BE  
PRECISE,  
I EXTRACTED  
HER IMAGE  
FROM  
WITHIN HER  
DREAM...



THE ONLY  
ONE WHO  
CAN DO  
THAT IS THE  
NOBLE  
WHO LEFT  
THOSE BITE  
MARKS  
ON HER  
THROAT.

WE CAN'T  
AWAKEN  
SYBILLE  
WITH THIS  
MACHINE.



BE-  
SIDES ...  
THIS  
WASN'T  
MADE  
IN THE  
CAPITAL.



THEY SURE  
MAKE  
SOME  
QUALITY  
MACHINERY  
IN THE  
CAPITAL..

I'M  
IM-  
PRESSED.

NO.





AND  
IT ONLY  
TOOK  
TWO  
HOURS.

—I  
BUILT  
IT.



...?

I'M SURE  
I WAS  
THE ONE  
WHO  
MADE  
IT...

...BUT I  
DON'T  
KNOW HOW  
I WAS  
ABLE TO DO  
SUCH A  
THING...



...



YOU  
KNOW,  
KRUTZ.

YOU AND  
HER HAND  
IN HAND,  
ON YOUR  
WAY HOME  
FROM  
SCHOOL...

I CAN  
STILL  
SEE IT  
NOW—



WHEN  
SYBILLE WAS  
BITTEN,  
I FOUGHT  
FOR ALL I  
WAS WORTH  
TO TRY TO  
SOMEHOW  
CURE HER...

I WAS  
THIRTY-FIVE  
THEN, A  
DOCTOR  
STILL EARLY  
ON IN HIS  
PRACTICE.

IT'S BEEN  
A LONG  
THIRTY  
YEARS.



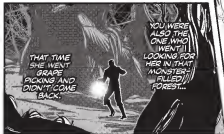
THAT  
CURRENT WAS  
STRONG  
ENOUGH TO  
MAKE A  
GROWN MAN  
THINK TWICE,  
BUT YOU  
DOVE RIGHT  
IN...

THAT  
TIME/SHE  
GOT  
STUCK  
IN THE  
RIVER...

THAT TIME  
SHE WENT  
GRAPE  
PICKING AND  
DIDN'T COME  
BACK.

YOU WERE  
ALSO THE  
ONE WHO  
WENT  
LOOKING FOR  
HER IN THAT  
MONSTER-  
FILLED  
FOREST...

I CAN STILL  
SEE HER  
MAKING A  
NECKLACE  
FOR YOU IN  
THE FLOWER  
GARDEN  
OUT BACK.





I HAVE  
TO  
WONDER.

WERE HER  
LIPS SOFT  
THE FIRST  
TIME YOU  
KISSED  
THEM?

WAS  
SYBILLE'S  
HAND  
WARM?



...I  
SUPPOSE.



DID SHE  
SAY SHE  
COULD  
FEEL YOUR  
HEART  
BEATING?

WHEN SHE  
PRESSED HER  
WARM CHEEK  
AGAINST  
YOUR CHEST  
DID SHE SAY  
IT FELT LIKE  
IRON?

I'LL TELL  
YOU WHAT  
YOU'RE  
BETTER  
OFF NOT  
HEARING.

—THE  
THING  
YOU'RE  
BETTER  
OFF NOT  
KNOWING.

WHAT  
...?

WHAT IF  
NONE OF  
THAT WAS  
TRUE?

I'LL  
TELL  
YOU.





SHERIFF'S OFFICE



SOME-  
THING  
INTER-  
FERED.



WERE  
YOU  
ASLEEP?

DID YOU  
DREAM  
OF  
SYBILLE?



INTER-  
FERED?





IT'S OLD  
MRS.  
SHELDON...  
SHE'S  
DEAD!

WHAM!

SHERIFF!



IT-IT-IT'S  
TERRIBLE!





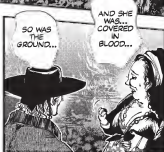
THERE WAS  
A BLACK  
ARROW  
RIGHT  
THROUGH  
HER NECK.

SH-SHE  
WAS  
RIGHT  
HERE,  
ON THE  
GROUND.

THERE'S  
NOTHING  
HERE.



WHAT'S  
ALL THIS  
COMMOTION  
OUT IN MY  
GARDEN?



SO WAS  
THE  
GROUND...

AND SHE  
WAS...  
COVERED  
IN  
BLOOD...





NO WAY...  
WHEN I  
SAW HER,  
I'M SURE  
SHE WAS...

YOU'RE  
SURE I  
WAS  
WHAT?



UH...  
WELL...

SHER-  
IFF?

I GOT AN  
EYEWITNESS  
REPORT  
THAT YOU'D  
BEEN  
KILLED...



WHAT ON  
EARTH'S  
THE  
TROUBLE,  
SHERIFF?



HUH?!



IN  
THAT  
FLOW-  
ER  
BED...

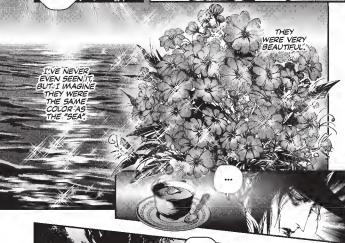
SHE WAS  
THERE...  
WHEN I  
SAW HER...



HERE  
I AM  
RIGHT  
AS  
RAIN.

THAT'S  
CRAZY  
TALK  
AND  
YOU  
KNOW  
IT.









YOU GET  
HOW  
THAT  
WORKS?



—EVEN  
THOUGH  
HE'D BE  
BOUND  
TO LEAVE  
ME.



I THINK I'D  
DO JUST  
ABOUT  
ANYTHING  
FOR HIM,  
NO MATTER  
HOW COLD  
HE WAS  
TO ME.

BUT  
ATTRACTIVE  
MEN  
HAVE TO  
BE THAT  
WAY.



...AND I'LL  
BE LEAVING  
THE VILLAGE  
SOON SO  
IT'S ALL  
RIGHT FOR  
ME...

I'M  
GETTIN'  
UP  
THERE IN  
YEARS...



HE'S THE  
TYPE WHO  
MAKES  
THOSE  
AROUND HIM  
UNHAPPY,  
EVEN IF HE  
DOESN'T  
MEAN TO.

EVERY-  
BODY  
GETS IT.



MAYBE YOU  
NEVER  
SHOULD'VE  
LET HIM  
INTO  
TOWN.

BUT IT  
MUST BE  
A PAIN  
FOR YOU  
FOLKS.



IS IT  
POSSIBLE  
TO EXIT A  
DREAM?





NOW  
GO  
HOME  
! I'M  
NOT  
ANGRY  
!

DON'T  
GET SO  
ANGRY!

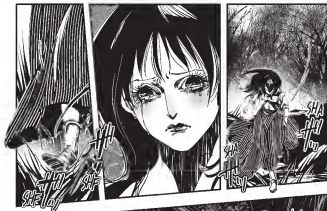


THEN  
WE'LL  
JUST  
HAVE TO  
TEST IT.

I  
DON'T  
KNOW.

WORKS  
FOR  
ME.













GO HOP  
IN A  
GRAVE  
WITH THE  
NOBILITY!

I HOPE  
SOME  
NIGHT  
CREATURE  
EATS  
YOU!



WHY'D  
YOU  
COME  
HERE?

NO  
REA-  
SON.

—IT'S  
CLOSE BY,  
AND I'VE  
PLAYED  
HERE  
SINCE I  
WAS A  
KID.



HE'S  
JUST  
WORRIED  
ABOUT  
YOU.



WHO  
CARES  
ABOUT  
THAT  
JERK?



HOW  
DO YOU  
KNOW  
THAT?

DO YOU  
WISH TO  
ATTEND  
THE BALL,  
AS WELL?

APPARENTLY  
SYBILLE  
CAME HERE  
A LOT  
TOO.





THE PAIN IS  
PROOF  
THAT THE  
DISEASE IS  
HEALING.

IF YOU CAN  
ENDURE IT  
ANOTHER  
YEAR OR TWO,  
YOU'LL BE  
ABLE TO RUN  
AROUND  
UNDER THE...  
BLUE SKY...  
AGAIN.

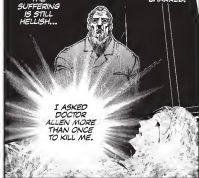
YOU'LL  
PROBABLY  
EVEN GET  
TO KISS  
BOYS.



EVEN IF  
TREATMENT  
IS ON TIME,  
THE  
SUFFERING  
IS STILL  
HELLISH...

IF YOU AREN'T  
TREATED SOON  
ENOUGH, YOU END  
UP A CORPSE  
THAT LOOKS FINE  
ON THE OUTSIDE,  
BUT IS BURNED  
UP INSIDE.

YOUR  
LUNGS  
HARDEN  
AND  
BECOME  
CHARRED.



I ASKED  
DOCTOR  
ALLEN MORE  
THAN ONCE  
TO KILL ME.



AND  
THIS IS  
WHAT  
HE  
SAID...



SHE  
PROBABLY  
WON'T  
WAKE UP  
FOR THE  
REST OF  
HER LIFE.

BUT THAT'S  
NOT TRUE  
FOR THE GIRL  
SLEEPING IN  
THE ROOM  
NEXT DOOR.



NOW ALL  
SHE DOES  
IS SLEEP,  
NEVER  
AGING.

THE THINGS  
YOU'LL GET  
TO SAVOR  
ENDED FOR  
SYBILLE  
THIRTY  
YEARS AGO.



SOMEDAY,  
I'D GET  
OUT OF  
THAT BED.

SOME-  
DAY,  
I'D BE  
HEALED.

THAT  
KEPT  
GOING  
THROUGH  
MY  
HEAD.



THAT'S  
HOW  
I WAS  
ABLE TO  
MAKE IT  
THROUGH.



WHAT  
KIND OF  
A LIFE IS  
THAT?





...EVER  
SINCE—  
EVER  
SINCE I  
DREAMED  
ABOUT  
YOU.



SINCE  
WHEN,  
EXACTLY  
?



.....

...BELLE  
COLDITE—  
SEVENTEEN  
COUNTS OF  
MURDER.

TRAINED  
IN DEMON  
KEMPO...  
MADDOX  
HO—TWELVE  
COUNTS OF  
MURDER.

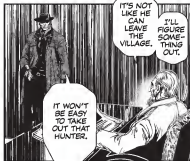
HMM...  
HMM...

ALEXIS  
PIPER—  
AT LEAST  
SEVEN  
COUNTS OF  
MURDER;  
USES AN  
ELECTRIC  
WHIP...



THE BIO  
BROTHERS  
...?





THOUGH I DON'T  
KNOW IN  
EXACTLY  
WHAT  
MANNER.

IT WOULD  
SETTLE  
MATTERS  
HERE, IF  
NOTHING  
ELSE.



AREN'T YOU  
POINTING  
THAT AT THE  
WRONG  
PERSON?



DO YOU  
MEAN  
SYBILLE?

IT'S HARD  
TO BELIEVE  
ALL OF IT  
WAS JUST A  
SHAM...



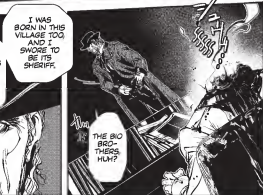
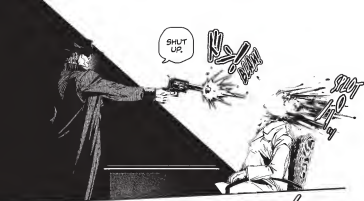
SAME  
HERE.

I TRULY  
WANTED  
TO SPEND  
THE REST  
OF MY  
DAYS  
HERE.



IT'S A  
GOOD  
PLACE.

I WAS  
BORN IN  
THIS  
VILLAGE.



IS IT TRUE,  
SYBILLE?



WAS  
WHAT YOU  
AND I  
HAD  
JUST A  
DREAM?



ARE OUR  
MEMORIES  
ALL JUST  
BULLSHIT?



...THAT  
THE OTHER  
YOU IS  
HAVING...?!

I MEAN,  
ARE EVEN  
MY VERY  
THOUGHTS  
NOT MY  
OWN WILL?

IS IT ALL  
JUST A  
DREAM...

IS THE  
FACT  
THAT  
I'M  
HERE—









—I'M  
VERY  
HAPPY  
RIGHT  
NOW.



BUT  
THAT'S  
JUST  
BECAUSE  
SYBILLE  
MAKES  
YOU DO  
IT.

ALL YOU  
DO IS  
TRY TO  
LOVE  
ME.



IT'S THE  
SAME  
REASON  
WHY  
I HATE  
YOU.

DON'T  
YOU  
SEE?



YOU'RE  
WRONG!

—I'M  
ME.

AND YOU  
HATE ME  
WITH YOUR  
ENTIRE  
BEING!

I LOVE  
YOU WITH  
ALL MY  
HEART.



OF  
COURSE,  
THAT'S  
SYBILLE'S  
DOING  
TOO...

NO...



SO  
WE CAN  
CON-  
TINUE  
TO  
EXIST...

HELP  
ME  
WITH  
THIS,

PLEASE,  
STOP!



WHIP?!

THAT IS,  
IF THIS  
SYBILLE IS  
JUST A  
DREAM OF  
THE OTHER  
SYBILLE...



MAYBE  
IT'S JUST  
AS WELL IF  
WHAT  
SYBILLE  
WANTS IS  
TO WAKE  
UP.



BUT  
WE'LL ALL  
DISAP-  
PEAR...

MAYBE  
SHE'LL  
WAKE UP  
IF I KILL  
THAT  
DREAM.

SYBILLE

BLAM!













DOES THAT  
MEAN THE  
DREAM YOU  
HAD IS THE  
ONE THE  
SYBILLE IN  
THIS WORLD  
IS HAVING?

...IS SHE  
THE SAME  
AS OUR  
SLEEPING  
GIRL?

PROBABLY.



...?

IT'S  
PROBABLY  
BECAUSE  
OF THAT  
MACHINE THE  
DIRECTOR  
WAS USING.



THE BLUE  
LIGHT AND  
WHITE  
DRESS  
SUIT HER  
WELL.



THANKS.



...



I DON'T EVEN  
KNOW WHERE  
I CAN GO...  
BUT I FIGURE  
IT'S WORTH A  
SHOT.

I'M  
LEAV-  
ING  
TOWN.



SYBILLE'S  
IN THE  
HOSPITAL  
BASEMENT.



TAKE  
CARE  
OF  
YOUR-  
SELF.

WHERE  
ARE YOU  
GOING?



YOU  
TOO.

GOOD  
LUCK.

THERE  
AREN'T  
ANY  
OTHER  
OPTIONS.



WELL,  
ARE YOU  
GOING  
TO GO?



THE GIRL,  
THE SLEEP-BRING-  
ER LOVED,  
WILL NEVER  
WAKE AGAIN.

NO  
MATTER  
WHAT  
WE DO,  
WE CAN'T  
UNDO THE  
EFFECTS  
OF HIS  
BITE.

JUST  
PERSUADE  
HER TO  
GO ON  
SLEEPING.

WHY  
DON'T  
YOU TRY  
TALKING  
TO THE  
GIRL?



YOU  
SHOULD  
TELL  
THAT TO THE  
DIRECTOR  
AND THE  
SHERIFF AND  
PUT THEIR  
MINDS AT  
EASE.



SO  
WHAT'LL  
YOU DO  
IF THAT  
HAPPENS?



THE GIRL  
MIGHT  
NOT ASK  
ME TO  
WAKE  
HER UP.



HUH, THE  
WORDS THAT  
COME OUT OF  
THAT PRETTY  
FACE OF  
YOURS NEVER  
CEASE TO  
AMAZE ME.

THE VILLAGE'S  
EASTERN GATE

THAT'S  
ODD...

THERE'RE  
NO  
GUARDS.

CAN  
I GET  
OUT OF  
HERE...?



HOLD  
IT.





IM  
KRUTZ,  
THE  
SHERIFF  
OF THIS  
VILLAGE.







WHOOOSH





HE SAID  
THE  
BASEMENT,  
DIDN'T  
HE?



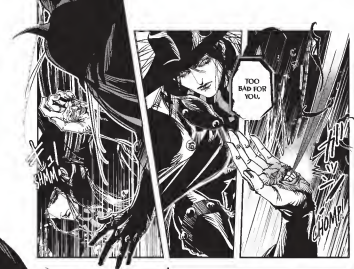
SHANG





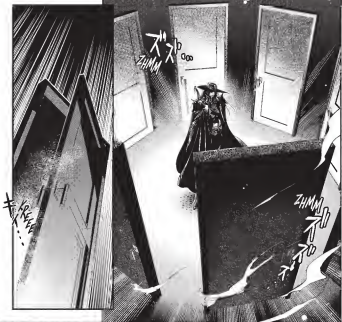
















THE NEURAL  
MANIPULATION'S  
NOT GOING  
WELL, AND  
NOW WE'VE  
GOT A  
PROBLEM.

THAT..  
...BAG-  
TARD'S  
HERE.

キキキ!



I  
DON'T  
KNOW.



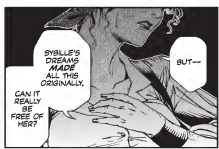
SHE'S  
PUTTING  
UP A  
TOUGH  
FIGHT.



WE'LL  
LEAVE IT  
IN THIS  
WORLD'S  
HANDS.



THEN  
WHAT  
DO WE  
DO?



SYBILLE'S  
DREAMS  
MADE  
ALL THIS  
ORIGINALLY.

BUT--

CAN IT  
REALLY  
BE  
FREE OF  
HER?















I HAVE  
TO GO SEE  
SYBILLE.



I'M THE  
SAME  
AIM-LING  
YOU  
MET!

WAIT!

JUMP

I'LL  
ALWAYS  
—

IF YOU  
STAY IN  
THIS  
VILLAGE—  
IN THIS  
WORLD...

STAY HERE  
IN THE  
VILLAGE...  
OR JUST  
LEAVE  
QUIETLY.

TRY  
TELLING  
THAT  
TO HER.

TAK  
AWAY

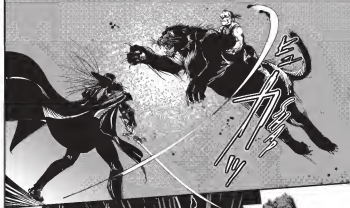




I'VE  
BEEN  
WAITING  
FOR  
YOU.











I CAN'T  
WAKE  
HER UP.

NO  
WONDER  
OUR  
ETERNAL  
SLEEPING  
BEAUTY  
SOUGHT  
YOUR AID.



I'M  
AGHAST  
AT HOW  
QUICKLY  
YOU BEAT  
THEM...

GIVE  
THIS  
SYBILLE  
BACK  
HER  
DREAM.



I JUST  
WANT TO  
KNOW  
WHAT I'M  
SUPPOSED  
TO DO.



ALTHOUGH  
THE  
SHERIFF  
ALREADY  
KILLED ME  
ONCE...

I'M STILL  
AFRAID TO  
DIE, EVEN  
IF THIS IS  
A DREAM.



WILL  
YOU KILL  
ME IF I  
REFUSE?









MY  
BROTHER'S  
ALIVE  
AND WELL  
TOO!

AND I'M  
NOT THE  
ONLY ONE.



SEE  
HOW IT  
WORKS  
?

...CALLED  
BIO-  
TECH-  
NOLOGY.

WE'RE  
PROD-  
UCTS...

...OF  
SOME  
ANCIENT  
SCIENCE



YOU'RE  
FIN-  
ISHED,  
HUNTER  
!



DOPPEL-  
GANGERS,  
EH?

THAT'S  
HOW HE  
CONFUSES  
HIS  
OPPONENTS.



TAKE  
THIS,  
HUNTER  
!!

DAMN  
IT!

YOUR  
DEATH IN  
THIS  
WORLD  
WILL MEAN  
YOUR  
DEATH IN  
REALITY!

CRASH!

WHOM





THAT  
WASN'T MY  
DOING,  
JUST  
FOR THE  
RECORD.

BUT  
WHERE  
ARE  
WE...?



IS THIS  
SYBILLE'S  
DREAM?



—OR  
SOME-  
PLACE  
ELSE  
...?





PLEASE  
KILL  
ME.

WHAT  
IS IT  
YOU  
WANT?

IT'S  
ABOUT  
TIME YOU  
TOLD ME  
YOUR  
REQUEST.



THIS  
WAS YOUR  
WISH.

THIS  
NIGHT  
WILL  
NEVER  
END.

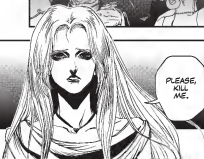
WHY  
NOT JUST  
GO ON  
DANCING  
HERE?



HE  
KNEW  
THAT.

WHEN  
HE BIT  
YOU.

IT'S BOTH  
NOBILITY AND  
HUMANS  
FROM THE  
VILLAGE  
DANCING  
HERE...



PLEASE,  
KILL  
ME.



THIS  
WORLD



IT WILL ALL  
DISAPPEAR  
IF YOU  
DIE—



EVERYONE  
YOU'VE  
MADE

AND  
EVERYTHING  
YOU'VE  
DREAMED.



KILL  
ME!



THAT'S  
WHY I  
SUMMONED  
YOU  
HERE.



OR,  
KILL ME  
BEFORE  
YOU DO.

DON'T  
GO.





SO,  
I'LL BE  
KILLED IF  
I DON'T  
KILL  
YOU?



IF YOU  
WANT TO DIE,  
YOU'D  
BETTER TRY  
TO KILL  
ME FIRST.

DON'T  
BOTHER  
WITH  
THREATS.



IF I  
DID  
THAT...

...IF I  
DID  
THAT  
...



PLEASE  
...

DON'T  
GO.



BUT  
I KNOW  
THAT'S  
THE REAL  
YOU.

WHAT A  
CRUEL  
THING  
TO SAY.

HOH  
HOH  
HOH.



?

WHAT  
THE  
...?

WHAT—  
AGAIN  
...?

IT'S  
NEVER A  
DULL  
MOMENT  
AROUND  
HERE...

DID THAT  
MACHINE  
DO THIS?









GRAHH  
?!

SWA!

SWA!

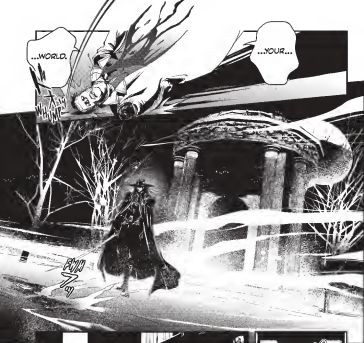


THIS  
AIN'T...

DON'T  
YOU...  
THINK  
YOU'RE  
SAFE  
NOW.



THAT'S  
IMPOS-  
SIBLE!









THIS  
IS A  
STAKE-  
FIRING  
GUN.

I HEAR  
THEY  
EVEN  
WORK ON  
DHAM-  
PIRS.



IF YOU'VE  
BECOME  
NOBILITY,  
HOW DO  
YOU  
INTEND  
TO DIE?



I CAN'T  
MISS YOU  
WITH THIS  
GUN, AND  
I WON'T.



I'LL  
APOLOGIZE  
TO SYBILLE  
IN THE  
AFTERLIFE.

—BUT  
WHAT  
THE  
HELL.

I STILL  
DON'T KNOW  
WHETHER I  
SHOULD  
PROTECT THIS  
WORLD OR  
NOT...



LOOKS LIKE  
THE WORLD  
YOU'RE TRYING  
TO PROTECT  
ISN'T ALL FUN  
AND GAMES.

SYBILLE WILL  
CONTINUE TO  
SLEEP, AND  
YOUR WIFE WILL  
KEEP WAITING  
FOR YOU TO  
COME HOME...







I DON'T KNOW.

...WILL THE CHANGE TAKE IT?

IF THEY CHANGE ME AGAIN...



I THINK IT WAS A NAME.

WHAT'D HE SAY?

WAS IT "A-LING", OR "SYBILLE"?

...



I DON'T WANT TO GET BACK UP...

EITHER WAY...

...YOU TAKE CARE.



...









THAT'S  
TOO  
MANY!

YOU  
CAN'T  
AVOID  
THEM  
ALL!

WELL?









DO YOU  
STILL  
WANT  
TO DIE?

YES.



YOU WERE  
ONE  
POSSIBILITY.



IN THIS VILLAGE,  
THIS WORLD,  
HUMANS AND  
THE NOBILITY  
COULD LIVE IN  
MUTUAL UNDER-  
STANDING.  
THAT WAS  
YOUR  
ABILITY.

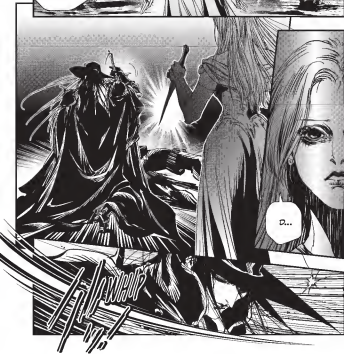
A CERTAIN  
MAN  
CHOSE TO  
ENTRUST  
YOU WITH  
HIS  
HOPES.



IT MEANS  
I HAVE  
TO KEEP  
SLEEPING  
AND  
DREAMING—  
FOREVER.

I WON'T  
KNOW JOY,  
SORROW,  
OR EVEN  
PAIN...

THAT'S A  
MAGNIFICENT  
THING,  
BUT IT'S  
PAINFUL  
FOR ME.









...SYBILLE  
MUST HAVE  
BEEN LIVING  
IN THIS  
WORLD AS  
NAN...

I  
GUESS—

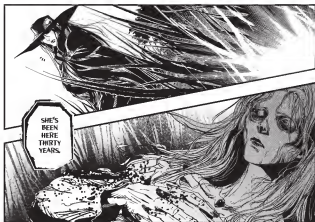


THAT ONE  
TIME WE SAW  
SYBILLE...  
SHE WAS  
WEARING THE  
SAME CLOTHES  
AS HER.











WELL,  
NOW WE  
KNOW.

THERE'S  
A STAB  
WOUND  
ON HER  
CHEST...

THIS'S  
THE  
REAL  
HER...



FORGIVE  
US,  
SYBILLE.







HEY,  
YOU!



HEY,  
WHAT'RE  
YOU  
LOOKING  
AT?



BUT THAT  
DREAM I  
HAD LAST  
NIGHT JUST  
SEEMED SO  
VIVID...

WELL,  
MAYBE IT'S  
JUST MY  
IMAGINA-  
TION...



STILL, THOUGH  
...

THEN DON'T  
GIVE ME  
FUNNY  
LOOKS  
LIKE THAT

I MAY NOT  
LOOK IT BUT I'M  
WELL KNOWN IN  
THESE PARTS  
AS "JACK-OF-  
ALL-TRADES  
MAGGUE."



NO-  
THING.



HAVEN'T  
WE MET  
SOMEWHERE  
BEFORE?

COME  
TO  
THINK  
OF IT...



NO, WE  
HAVEN'T.



SHEET  
HI  
HI



I'D  
REMEMBER  
IF I EVER  
LAID EYES ON  
A MAN AS  
**GORGEOUS**  
AS YOU.

AND  
YET  
I STILL  
FEEL  
LIKE...

YOU'RE  
RIGHT.

OH  
HI  
HI



HIDEAOKI KAKUCHI'S VAMPIRE HUNTER D VOL. 5 - END

*On a desolate no-man's land...*

*...A rescue mission to free an imprisoned girl,  
has gone bad...*

*“People finder”, Granny Viper,  
mistakenly recruits the help of a  
shady mercenary escort—  
but is it too late?*

*Can she turn to D to reach  
them in time—all the while  
crossing treacherous terrain  
and battling all enemies on  
the way?*

HIDEYUKI KIKUCHI'S

# Vampire Hunter D

Volume 6

2011

[www.vampire-d.com](http://www.vampire-d.com)



# AFTERWORD

TRULY STORY!!

HOW THE VMD MANGA IS PRODUCED

5

THIS IS HOW I GO ABOUT IT.



## 2 RESTRUCTURING



I HAVE TO THINK ABOUT THINGS LIKE PAGE COUNT, SO I RESTRUCTURE IT AS A SHORTER STORY, DIALOGUE AND THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS GET SHIFTED AROUND TOO.

IT'S MY RESPONSIBILITY TO TRY TO KEEP MY REVISION AS CLOSE TO THE ORIGINAL AS POSSIBLE SO THERE.

## 1 READING THE ORIGINAL NOVEL



I'VE, OF COURSE, READ IT MULTIPLE TIMES AT THIS POINT, BUT I READ IT AGAIN WITH SETTINGS AND CHARACTERS IN MIND (AND I TAKE NOTES.)

## 3 THE SCRIPT

I COMPOSE A SCRIPT WITH DIALOGUE AND STAGE DIRECTIONS, KEEPING IN MIND WHAT'S NEEDED IN EACH PANEL.



## 4 DETERMINING PAGE COUNT

THIS IS RATHER IMPORTANT. HERE, I PROTECT A ROUGH PAGE COUNT BASED ON THE SCRIPT. IF IT'S TOO HIGH, I REDUCE IT (CRY), REWORKING THE SCRIPT SO IT DOESN'T END UP AWKWARD.



## 5 STORYBOARDING

THIS IS ALSO CALLED THE "NAME" STEP - I DO A ROUGH SKETCH OF THE BOOK, SO I CAN ESTABLISH PANEL LAYOUT, DIALOGUE / BALLOONS, AND CHARACTERS / BACKGROUND LAYOUT.

I DRAW TWO PAGES AT A TIME AT LOW RESOLUTION USING A TABLET (IN PHOTOSHOP!).

THIS IS ALSO WHEN I CREATE THE MAIN CHARACTER CHART.

## 6 SUBMISSION (AND CHECK)

THE STORYBOARDS AND CHARACTER CHART GET SUBMITTED TO DIGITAL MANGA, THE AMERICAN PUBLISHER. IT'S DATA, SO I EMAIL IT. AT THE SAME TIME, I SEND PRINTOUTS TO MR. KIKUCHI.

GO!

COME ON, IT'S TIME TO START DRAWING!

THINGS WILL END UP GETTING CHANGED AGAIN BEFORE THE END...

WHEN IT WAS DECIDED I'D DRAW THE O MANGA, HE SAID:

WE CAN DRAW IT ANY WAY WE WANT. BUT DON'T CHANGE IT'S CHARACTER.



SO THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT I DO (LAUGH). I GUESS IT'S MORE LIKE I'M REPORTING TO MR. KIKUCHI, RATHER THAN GETTING HIM TO CHECK THINGS.

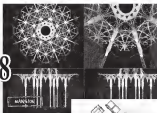
I SET THESE UP IN ILLUSTRATOR, IT ALL GETS DIVIDED INTO LAYERS, AND THEN IMPORTED INTO PHOTOSHOP.

IT'S JUST HOW IT'S USED TO MAKE IT

# <SHADING> 3D PRODUCTION

WIDE-ANGLE CAMERA AND OVERHEAD SHOTS ARE A MUST...

I PRODUCE BUILDINGS AND VARIOUS SMALL OBJECTS IN 3D, USING THE STORYBOARDS FOR REFERENCE, I DECIDE ON ANGLES, THEN RENDER IT ALL. THIS IS PHOTOSHOP SO I DO SOME MANUAL TOUCH-UP SO IT WON'T CLASH WITH THE CHARACTERS.



I USUALLY MAKE IT ALL 'SIZE AND THEN RESIZE IT LATER.



BE SO FAST IN SOME BEFORE BEING IN. I WENT TO THE FIRST, BEYOND THE TO TO WATER OF WITH IT WOULD NOT HAVE

THIS IS HOW THE LAYERS WORK, THERE CAN BE UPWARDS OF THIRTY OF THEM. THIS WOULD BE A LITTLE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND

PANEL BORDER

DIALOGUE

BUBBLE

EFFECT LINES

SEX

CHARACTERS

TAB

EFFECT LINES

NO BACKGROUND

GRID MARKS

EFFECT LINES

AT THIS POINT THE LINE DRAWINGS ARE DIGITAL

# TOUCHUP

THIS IS DONE IN PHOTOSHOP, AS THERE ARE MULTIPLE LAYERS, THE CHARACTERS AND WHATNOT ARE ALL TREATED AS CLIPPING. I USE A BRUSH TO SHADE OFF THE GREY PARTS AND TONE, AND INSERT EFFECT LINES WITH A PLUG-IN. THE SOUND EFFECTS ARE ALSO ADDED HERE.

# INKING

INKING IS DONE IN PRINTER. I DRAW QUICKLY WITH A PEN TOOL, THAT'S CUSTOMIZED THE WAY I LIKE IT. ANY ROUGH SKETCHING IS DONE IN A SEPARATE LAYER.

I CAN ADD IT ANY NUMBER OF TIMES, AND IT'S ALSO THAT THERE'S NO BITS OF BRUSH TO DEAL WITH

I DO ALL THE BRUSHING BY MYSELF--AT MY DESK. MAKE SOUNDS GOOD AND ALL, BUT I ALSO SPEND A LOT OF TIME SHADING IN IT.



IT'S NOT NEARLY AS HARD TO SAY FOR PHYSICAL BRUSHES BE THERE

THE PLUG-IN IS USE ONLY WITH OLD VERSIONS, SO THE PLUG-IN I USE IS 4.0...



SINCE IT'S DIGITAL, IT'S EASY TO CHANGE OR REMOVE. JUST WASH OUT FOR BUILDINGS

## 11

### IMAGE CHECK

I REDRAW WHEN CORRECTIONS ARE NECESSARY, THEN RESUBMIT IT FOR CHECKING.

**NO GOOD**

I'M SORRY!

IT'S BETTER TO SEND A LOT

- IT'S THE EASY
- IT'S HARD TO ASSEMBLE AND SORT'S MATERIALS.

I ALSO SEND IT TO MR. KIKUCHI

MR. KIKUCHI

HE TELLS ME MY DRAWING'S OVER SMALL, AND IT HELPS MOTIVATE ME TO FINISH

I GET EVERYTHING THAT'S COMPLETE TOGETHER AND SEND IT TO GMP TO BE CHECKED. (IT'S VIA EMAIL, SO THE RESOLUTION HAS TO BE OK).

THIS TAKES ONLY ABOUT 1-2 WEEKS, SO I GET OF THIS HEAVY DEADLINE

## 12

### DATA CONVERSION

THE DIALOGUE AND SFX ARE LEFT IN THEIR OWN LAYER (FOR TRANSLATION PURPOSES), AND THE REST IS COMBINED AND DIGITIZED. (THE GREY PARTS ARE HALFTONED.) I WORK AT 400DPI, AND AT THE END IT'S CONVERTED TO 300DPI.

THE → RESOLUTION'S ON THE LOW SIDE, BUT THERE'S NO PROBLEM READING FROM 8-INCHES TO 14-INCHES (COMFORTABLY)

### OKAY

EVEN IF IT'S BIG, SOMETIMES I SPOT STUFF I DON'T NOTICE AND I END UP FINISHING IT AGAIN...

LIKE STUFF STICKING OUT, OR PLACES WHERE I FORGOT SUBMITTING...

IT WAS TO DO WITH MY COMPUTER'S FRAME...

## 14

### EDITORIAL

THE EDITORIAL STAFF DO THINGS LIKE TRANSLATION, LETTERING, AND DESIGN WORK. PROMOTION'S IMPORTANT TOO!

WE ALSO DO THE JOB OF THE ORIGINAL ARTISTS

ALL VERSIONS ASIDE FROM THE ENGLISH (EVEN THE JAPANESE ONE) HAVE THEIR OWN COUNTRY'S EDITORIAL SCHEDULES, THANKS!

IT'S DELIVERED AS DATA

**EXTRAS**

DON'T FORGET THE AFTERWORD, BONUS PICS, COLOR FRONTPIECE, AND THE COVER ILLUSTRATION FOR THE FOLLOWING VOLUME!

IT NEVER ENDS!

## 13

### DELIVERY

WE DOWNLOAD USING DATA TRANSFER/UPLOAD SERVICES AND OUR OWN SERVERS

I'VE GOT A LOT OF RELIEF HERE

THE MANUSCRIPT IS IN JAPANESE

## 15

### THEN THE BOOK ARRIVES IN YOUR HANDS.

THE JAPANESE EDITION IS THE ONLY ONE THAT USES A DIFFERENT COVER ILLUSTRATION

DOES ANYONE ABOUT 4-5 MONTHS AFTER DELIVERY

SINCE I'M DONE DRAWING, I MOVE INTO THE "REASONING THE ORIGINAL NINE" PHASE FOR THE NEXT VOLUME. IT'S ALL SO EXHAUSTING.

AND SURE ENOUGH—I'M BEHIND SCHEDULE (AGAIN THIS TIME). (CRY)

THANK YOU TO ALL THE GMP STAFF FOR WAITING SO PATIENTLY. I'D ALSO LIKE TO SAY THANKS TO MR. KIKUCHI FOR ENCOURAGING ME, AND PLEASE LET ME SAY THANKS AS WELL TO ALL YOU READERS WHO PICKED UP THIS BOOK.

THUS I DO OWE IT TO ALL TO YOU FOR ME BEING ABLE TO DRAW IT. THANK YOU SO MUCH. I HOPE YOU KEEP READING MY WORK THAT'S YET TO COME.

LIKE IT? BUY IT!



LOVAG